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Discover African American History at Sully

From February 1, 2006 through the end of April discover the African American presence at Sully Historic Site where tours will focus on the work of the enslaved community. Built in 1794, Sully was the home of Richard Bland Lee, Northern Virginia's first congressman and uncle of Robert E. Lee. Without the work of approximately 30 slaves the fashionable lifestyle of the Lee family would not have been possible.

On your tour, hear about Thornton, the cook; Madam Juba, the laundress; George, the blacksmith; Elenor Berry, a house slave; the fate of Elliot, a four year -old and the others who lived and worked at Sully.

In the exhibit room, the focus is on artifacts from past archaeological excavations around the Slave Quarter. Objects such as cow, sheep and deer bones tell us about the foods eaten by slaves, most likely used in one-pot stews. Objects such as oyster shell gaming pieces and pipe stems tell us a little about daily lives within the slave quarter.

Tours of the house are given daily except Tuesdays from 11am-3pm in February and 11am-4pm beginning March 1. The cost is \$5 for adults, \$4 for students and \$3 for children and seniors.

On Saturday, February 18 from 1-3pm, on-going activities in the main house, outbuildings and slave quarter will highlight the work done by the slaves and show how they might spend their personal time at the quarter.

On Saturday, February 25, with performances at noon and 2pm, join Virginia historian and interpreter Carson Hudson in a "show and tell" program about banjos and bones. The origins and evolution of the banjo are highlighted. Hear tales of the African American influence on music in early Virginia. Cow bones found in the South Lane site of 18th century slave cabins may indicate that one or more slaves played this percussion instrument. Cost is \$7 adults, \$5 children/seniors. Prepaid reservations are required by 2/17.

For more information about tours of Sully or these programs, please contact the site at 703-437-1794. Sully Historic Site is located on Route 28 in Chantilly, VA. From the Beltway (495) take either I66 west to Rt. 28 North or the Dulles Toll Rd. to exit 9A (Rt. 28 South).

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